



Report from the President
South East Asian Regional Association for Medical
Education (SEARAME)
Report Summary for the WFME Executive Meeting
September 3rd and 4th 2020

1. Introduction

SEARAME is World Federation for Medical Education's Regional Association for South East Asia region.

SEARAME is a regional non government organization interested in enhancing the quality of Medical Education by promoting the highest Standards in Medical Education among the member countries of the South-East Asia Region of the World Health Organization (WHO) with which it is in strategic partnership to achieve the above mentioned purpose.

The parent Organization of SEARAME is the World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) with the mission of quality improvement in Medical Education met through the development of standards in medical education, by the promotion of accreditation of medical schools, with the development of databases on medical education, through projects on the future of medicine and medical education, and through other publications and partnerships.

2. Executive Committee (2018-2021)

President WFME: Prof David Gordon

President SEARAME: Assoc Prof Titi Savitri (Indonesia)

Vice President SEARAME: Prof Tintun (Myanmar)

Secretary General: Assoc Prof Mora Claramita (Indonesia)

Senior Adviser to WFME on behalf of SEARAME: Prof Rita Sood

Director for Student Exchange Programme: Prof Thomas Chacko

Representatives from 11 Member Countries:

- Prof Suwat Benjaponpitak from Thailand
- Prof Himanshu Pandya from India
- Dr Jotsna from Nepal
- Prof Indika Karunathilake from Srilanka

Secretariat :

Faculty of Medicine, Public Health, and Nursing Universitas Gadjah Mada
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- Prof. Humayun Takbir Khaluder from Bangladesh
- Prof. Budhu from Indonesia
- Prof. Dr. Aye Aye Khin from Myanmar
- Bhutan
- Republic of North Korea
- Timor Leste
- Maldives

Advisor:

Prof Muzaherul Haq (Bangladesh)
Prof Ainun Afroza (Bangladesh)
Prof Jayawickramarajah (Sri Lanka)
Prof Khunying Kobchitt Limpaphayom (Thailand)
Prof Thomas Chacko (India)

Divisions:

Divisions of Journal and Publication
Divisions of Faculty Development
Divisions of QA and Accreditation
Divisions of Educational Development and Exchange
Divisions of Website and IT

SEARAME Secretariat: Trisia Yoenami (Indonesia)
PIC Membership : Anisa
SEARAME Consultant: Elise (supported by ECFMG)

3. SEARAME Programmes 2018-2021

a. SEARAME-GMEX Exchange Programmes

Student Exchange

In 2018 SEARAME and GEMx (Global Educational Exchange in Medicine and the Health Professions, a service of ECFMG-FAIMER) partnered to form an exclusive, cost effective South-East Asia Medical Student Exchange Program, with the aim to improve medical education in South-East Asia through partnership learning. In 2019 we were very proud to launch the Exchange Pilot Program, which had great success. The program provides students affordable international medical placements in neighboring countries so they can enhance their understanding of the region's medical needs and practices, in the hope that lessons can be learnt and improvement can be made to the students home health care. GMEx is generously providing the exchange management system and travel bursaries to allow more students to participate. In most cases, free accommodation is also available.

For the first batch, eight medical schools participate in the program, namely:

India



Believers Church Medical College

Positioned in south-west India near Cochin, BCMC is a new up-and-coming medical institution. Elective/s Offered: Endocrinology, Diabetes, Metabolism, Community Health, Preventative Medicine, Public Health

Pramukhswami Medical College

PMC has a history of over 30 years and is affiliated to Sardar Patel University. It features in north-west India near Ahmedabad. Elective/s Offered: Adult Psychiatry, Cardiology, Clinical Dermatology, Critical Care, Diabetes, Nephrology, Neurology, Oncology, Pediatrics, Pulmonary Medicine

Indonesia

Padjadjaran University

The Faculty of Medicine (FK), Unpad was established based on the philosophy of benefiting the community and together in equality. It was founded in 1957 as one of four forerunners in Unpad and is located south-east of Jakarta. Elective/s Offered: Rural Health Program, Family Medicine

Sultan Agung Islamic University

Universitas Islam Sultan Agung (UNISSULA) Fakultas Kedokteran is one of the leading Islamic universities in Indonesia. It is located in Semarang, Central Java. Elective/s Offered: Health Services for Special Community, Sharia Hospital Management/ Islamic Medicine

Universitas Islam Indonesia

The Islamic University of Indonesia is a private university in Yogyakarta, Indonesia. It was established on 8 July 1945. The Medical school started operations in 2001. Elective/s Offered: Nutrient and Thyroid Disorders

Nepal

Lumbini Medical College

LMC was established in 1990 in the beautiful hilly region of Tanson. The teaching hospital has recently been upgraded to a 600 bed hospital.

Sri Lanka

University of Jaffna

University of Jaffna Faculty of Medicine was established in 1978. Jaffna is located in the beautiful northern region of Sri Lanka. Elective/s Offered: Community & Family Medicine, Medicine, O&G, Paediatrics, Psychiatry, Surgery

Thailand

Secretariat :

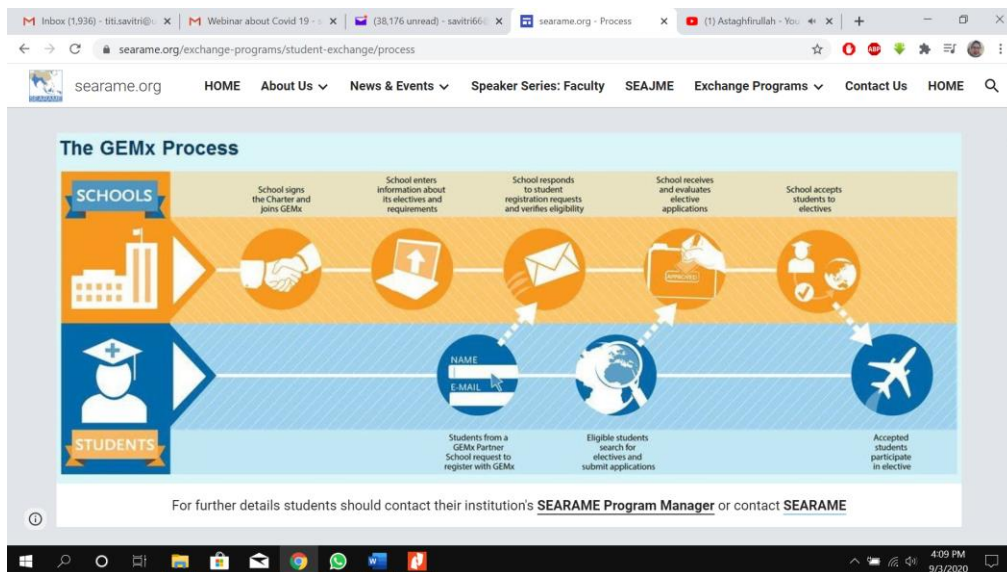
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Srinakharinwirot University

SWU is the eighth oldest medical school in Thailand and has two campuses, one in Bangkok and one in Ongkharak District, Nakhon Nayok Province. Elective/s Offered: Internal Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Surgery, Pediatrics, Anesthesiology, ENT, Orthopedics Surgery, and Forensic Medicine. Another teaching hospital is also available with limited availability.

The following is the process of Student Exchange which is facilitated by GMEx.



Faculty Exchange

The aim is to improve medical education in South East Asia through partnership learning. The program provides participating medical schools the opportunity to improve on an identified aspect of their medical school which will inevitably improve the medical education they provide. They will be partnered with a suitable medical school in South East Asia, whereby a delegate (the Dean or the Vice Dean) will travel to the partner and undertake a project which will be reported on. In return, the institution may also host a delegate from another medical school and act as a mentor for their needs.

By having faculty exchange, it is expected that there will be sharing and learning from medical schools in SEARAME. For example, a Medical school in Sri Lanka that has joined the programme may want to improve particular aspect, such as curriculum development, and for this purpose they will benchmark to a medical school in Thailand. This Faculty Exchange will facilitate the traveling and living cost while the Dean or the Vice Dean visit a medical school in Thailand to learn comprehensively curriculum planning and implementation. The medical school in Thailand will then become a mentor for the medical school in Sri Lanka during their curriculum reform process. This model of partnership will hopefully increase the likelihood of success.

The Faculty Exchange is scheduled to start in 2021.

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The following are the participating institutions that have signed an agreement:

India

Apollo Institute of Medical Sciences & Research (AIMSR)
Believers Church Medical College
Pramukhswami Medical College

Indonesia

Padjadjaran University
Sultan Agung Islamic University
Universitas Islam Indonesia

Myanmar

University of Medicine, Magway

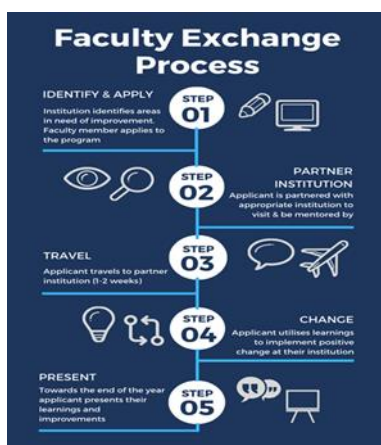
Nepal

Lumbini Medical College

Srilanka

Eastern University Sri Lanka
University of Jaffna

The following is the procedures in conducting this faculty exchange:



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Update: In total 11 students already did the exchange programme. The Faculty Exchange is in preparation and is due to start in 2021. Due to Covid 19 pandemic, the SEARAME GMEx programme exchanges have been suspended.

b. SEARAME Speaker Series

The Speaker Series offers faculty members the opportunity to learn from experts and coworkers in the field. Throughout the year relevant themes will be discussed and highlighted in the series. Specialists in the field will present on their knowledge, observations, findings, and/or advice.

The objectives of the Speaker Series is to:

1. Share knowledge, experiences and best practices from medical schools and health organisations in SEARAME member countries
2. Learn lessons among participants
3. Motivate participants to implement best practices in their medical schools to improve the quality of medical education in SEARAME countries

Further learning will occur in the WhatsApp conversations that follow the viewing of the presentations.

Video available: Dr. Titi Savitri from Indonesia, Dr. A Narkwichean from Thailand, Dr Manjunatha S. N. from India and Prof. Suttipong Wacharasindhu

c. Publication of SEAJME : on going

d. Setting up FAIMER Regional Institute at Faculty of Medicine Universitas Gadjah

Mada: It has been set up and started the first batch in 2018. Two fellows from Myanmar has joined.

e. Setting up SEARAME Secretariat at Faculty of Medicine Universitas Gadjah Mada:

It is up and running. Due to Covid-19 pandemic, Trisia's contract ended on 31March 2020 and is not extended.

f. Collaboration of FAIMER Regional Institutes in SEAR: Faculty Exchanges funded by FAIMER|ECFMG.

It has been planned to start in 2021 and preparation already started at the beginning 2020, but it is suspended due to Covid 19 Pandemic

g. Developing Information System for Medical Schools in the SEAR

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- h. Strengthening Accreditation System in member countries:** a proposal was submitted to ECFMG and is waiting for approval, but due Covid 19 Pandemic, we need to adjust the proposal and might re-submit.
- i. Conducting training and consultancy programmes:** a proposal on skills training was submitted to ECFMG, but is on hold due to Covid 19 Pandemic
- j. Setting up Collaboration mechanism with national associations:**
The President wrote letters to all chair of national associations. But responses are not received yet.
- k. SEARAME Conferences in 2020:** it was planned in Bangladesh and is being postponed to 2021 due to Covid 19 Pandemic
- l. Others: SEARAME website has been renewed with new performance

Yogyakarta, 11 September 2020

President of SEARAME

Assoc Prof dr Titi Savitri P, MA, MMedEd, PhD

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The minutes of the 13th SEARAME Executive Committee Meeting

8th May 2018 at 5 PM at Sheraton Hotel, Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

The meeting started at The President of SEARAME, Dr. Titi Savitri chaired the meeting.

1.0. Opening / Welcome

Dr. Titi Savitri, President of SEARAME welcomed the Executive Committee members.

2.0. Participants and apologies

2.1. Participants

1. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Titi Savitri (Indonesia), President
2. Prof. Dr. Khunying Kobchitt Limpaphayom (Thailand), Past-President
3. Prof. Dr. Tri Nur Kristina (Indonesia), Secretary-General and Country Representative
4. Prof. Dr. Thomas V Chacko (India), Advisor
5. Prof. Dr. P.T. Jayawickramarajah (Sri Lanka), Advisor
6. Prof. Dr. Ainun Afroza (Bangladesh), Advisor
7. Dr. Aye Aye Khin (Myanmar), Advisor
8. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Gandes Retno Rahayu (Indonesia)
9. Prof. Dr. Md. Humayun Kabir Talukder (Bangladesh), Country Representative
10. Dr. Tin Tun (Myanmar), Country Representative
11. Prof. Dr. Indika Karunathilake (India), Country Representative
12. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Suwat Benjaponpitak (Thailand), Country Representative
13. Dr. Joao Martins (East Timor)
14. Dr. Jyotsna Rimal (Nepal)
15. Anna M Iacone, MS (USA)
16. Elise Moore (Australia)
17. Prof. Dr. Ova Emilia (Indonesia)
18. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mora Claramita (Indonesia)
19. Dr. Noviarina Kurniawati (Indonesia)
20. Dr. Yodi Mahendratta (Indonesia)
21. Dr. Widyandana (Indonesia)

2.2. Apologies

1. Dr. Avinash N. Supe (India), Country Representative

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2. Prof. Dr. Rita Sood (India), Advisor
3. Prof. Dr. Arjuna P.R. Aluwihare (Sri Lanka), Advisor
4. Prof. Dr. M. Muzaherul Huq (Bangladesh), Advisor
5. Dr. Kinzang P. Tshering (Bhutan), Country Representative
6. Prof. Dr. Jagdish Prasad Agrawal (Nepal), Country Representative

3.0. Acceptance of agenda

Following deliberations, the planned agenda and agenda sequence was accepted.

4.0. Approval of minutes from the 12th Ex Co Meeting held at Kathmandu, Nepal 2-4 December 2017.

5.0 Action taken on the minutes

It was agreed that the 12th Exco Meeting would be focused on discussing the SEARAME Programmes for 200

6.0 Activity Report of SEARAME

6.1. Secretary-General's report:

Prof. Ova Emilia to thank the Exco for trusting UGM as a secretariat office of SEARAME now. UGM will strengthen the development and out region using the network collaboration more together and could meet more often in quarterly as UGM fully support for SEARAME activities.

6.2. Report of the President – see Annexure I

7.0 Journal of SEARAME (SEAJME)

June 2017 journal done, published on like open source in Chulalongkorn
December 2017 is still in process, in 2 months will be ready
No funding from WHO to get support from Sri Lanka for publishing and printing
One person should be in charged
The Dean could afford the funding to negotiate with the editor to make it in the cover
Generate through the institution next challenge to index
The quality members more manuscript is coming
The step one is indexing, the quality of publishing with UGM
Offer on line journal free, continue publish in public program in UGM journal and leave the Chulalongkorn on line
Product delay due to the English language
Rewrite the article is the editorial work

8.0 GMEX Proposal:

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Anna and Elise offered the Ex Co SEARAME to join the GEMX program which will provide funding to the medical school to implement the GEMX program by developing information system.

9.0 Shifting of Secretariat:

SEARAME Secretariat is located at Universitas Gajah Mada (UGM), Farmaco Street, Yogyakarta. Need to hand over all documents/facilities from India and Thailand to Yogyakarta. UGM has provided a secretariat office with the office equipment and land line with phone number +62 274 530600 Ext. 215 and email address searame.fkkmk@ugm.ac.id and Trisia will be the contact person.

10.0 Country Reports In this meeting, there is no country report as this meeting is too closed to Nepal Meeting in December 2017. The main focus of this meeting is to discuss SEARAME Programme

11.0 Financial support / Funding for the organization / funding for SEARAME Projects:

WHO could not provide funding to cover all the Ex Co members to attend the SEARAME meeting but only 2 persons could be covered by WHO. As mentioned by WHO that SEARAME must propose the join activity as earliest as possible so WHO could put it the work plan for budgeting. As voluntary Dr. Rita Sood could manage funding from WHO as extending support has a dedicated funding support.

12.0 Executive Board of SEARAME 2018-2020: - See Annexure 2

13.0 FAIMER Regional Institutes Collaboration, SEARAME Centre of Education Development and other matters:

UGM will start to implement FAIMER Regional Institute as agreed in September 2018. The Director of FAIMER in Indonesia is Dr. Mora Claramita.

14.0 Presentation on proposed activities for SEARAME:

Strengthening accreditation system of every country will be in the year 2023. Pressure accreditation body in the country should be known.

Special task force is needed from each country.

15.0 Confirmation of the venue of 2019 Ex Co Meeting in Bhutan or India.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM with the President and Secretary-General thanking all those who were present.

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